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NEWHAVEN PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORT MEDICAL OFFICER  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1951

Public Health Department,  
Lewes House,  
Lewes,  
Sussex.

March, 1952.



OFFICERS AND STAFF

Port Medical Officer and  
Medical Inspector of Aliens

Dr. G.M.D.S.B. Lobban,  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.I.P.H.,  
F.S.M.O.H.

Assistant Port Medical  
Officer of Health and  
Assistant Medical Inspector  
of Aliens

Dr. R. A. Stenhouse  
L.M.S.S.A. (Lond).

Port Sanitary Inspector  
and Food Inspector

W. P. Harrison,  
Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.J.B.  
Cert. R.S.I. Meat and  
Foods  
M.R. San.I.

Clerk - Port Health  
Department

Miss B. M. Hamper

Nurse Attendant  
(Medical Inspector of Aliens)

Mrs. A. Bassett



NEWHAVEN PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1951

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NEWHAVEN PORT HEALTH COMMITTEE

Madam and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting the Annual Report for 1951 of the Port Medical Officer and Medical Inspector of Aliens.

The chief feature of the Report is the enormous increase of passenger traffic which was experienced in the year under review.

The numbers of inward and outward British and Alien passengers are the highest ever recorded in the port's history. There were 173,253 inward and 173,544 outward British and 51,918 inward and 53,385 outward alien passengers who passed through Newhaven port in 1951.

To illustrate how much the passenger traffic has grown, the inward numbers for 1951 can be compared with the inward average annual numbers for the period 1929 to 1938.

The average annual number of inward British passengers for the latter period was 92,361 and the average annual of inward aliens was 33,553 for the same period. Applying the 1951 inward numbers British and alien to their comparable average annual numbers for 1929 to 1938 period one finds that there has been an increase of inward British passengers in 1951 of 85% and of inward alien passengers of approximately 60%.

The work of the Medical Inspector of Aliens is almost confined wholly to alien medical inspection and it is of interest to know that the average annual number of inward aliens which passed through the port in the post-war period 1945 to 1950 was 35,816. Here again the increase in the volume of inward aliens was increased by over 60% above the average annual figure for the 1945 to 1950 period.

In 1951 cargo imported amounted to 194,362 tons, whilst that exported amounted to 31,918 tons. The average annual tonnages for the period 1946 to 1950 were, imported 159,355 tons and exported 17,415 tons.

The chief imports in 1951 were coal, coke and patent fuel (123,772 tons), fruit and vegetables (13,602 tons), and oil fuel (10,237 tons).

The chief exports were iron and steel (5,392 tons) and building and road materials (3,538 tons).

7,795 cars, 703 motor cycles and 19 motor lorries were imported. The vehicles exported were 9,978 cars and 774 motor cycles.

Imported foods in 1951 totalled 13,986 tons, composed of fish, fruit and vegetables, together with a small tonnage of grain and flour. The totals for the past four years are given below:-

1948	18,807 tons
1949	24,809 tons
1950	16,487 tons
1951	13,986 tons



During the year 51,995 inward aliens arrived at the Port and of these 51,918 passed through whilst 77 were refused permission to land by the Immigration Officer. Altogether 50,192 aliens were medically inspected by the Medical Inspector of Aliens whilst 1,803 were subjected to a more detailed medical examination. Eighteen were found to be physically incapacitated, nine were found to be undesirable for medical reasons and three were classified as lunatic idiot or mental defective. Accommodation for the medical inspection of aliens at the Port was as satisfactory as could be expected in view of the age and bad planning of the building in which the accommodation is placed.

3,700 foreign and coastwise vessels entered the Port in 1951. Passenger vessels carried aliens into the Port on 468 occasions. Throughout the year these passenger vessels arrived at the Port in the afternoons each day. An additional night crossing in the summer months necessitated the medical inspection of aliens at an early hour.

Nuisances found in British ships inspected were few, being only nine, of which three were due to structural defects through wear and tear and six were due to dirt, vermin or other conditions prejudicial to public health. Four nuisances, all due to structural defects through wear and tear, were found on ships of other nations.

During the year no vessel reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease aboard. Special attention was given to inward vessels from infected ports by the Port Medical Officer, the Assistant Port Medical Officer and the Sanitary Inspector.

Arrangements for the cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons and clothing, for hospital accommodation and ambulance transport of infectious and non-infectious diseases cases from ships remained throughout 1951 as before.

To summarize, the report clearly indicates the continuing increase of passenger and goods traffic, both inward and outward.

The number of aliens who entered the Port in 1951 is the highest on record.

Medical arrangements as to medical staffing, accommodation for medical examinations, etc., were satisfactory but the continued and rapid increase in the inward aliens traffic is beginning to impose a strain on present arrangements, and some revision relating to the attendance of medical staff at the Port may become necessary in the near future.

In conclusion, my thanks are due to my Assistant, Doctor Stenhouse, for his support and conscientiousness. My thanks are also due to Mr. Cardy, Marine Superintendent, Newhaven Harbour, for his ready help and courtesy and to the Immigration, Customs and C.I.D. officials for their kind co-operation and helpfulness.

Finally, I am grateful to you for the help and encouragement I have received during the year.

Yours obediently,

G. M. Davidson Lobban,  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
F.R.S.I., etc.

Port Medical Officer and Medical  
Inspector of Aliens  
Newhaven Port

Public Health Dept.,  
Lewes House,  
Lewes.

March, 1952

1. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT

DURING THE YEAR

TABLE "A"

	Number	tons	No. Inspected		Number	Number	Number	Number
			by the Medi- cal Offi- cer	by the Sanit- ary Inspec- tor	report- ed to be defec- tive	of vessels on which defects were rene- died	of vessels on which defects were found and reported to M. of T. Surv- eyors	of vessels reported as having or having had during the voyage infect- ious disease on board
<u>Foreign</u>								
Steam	470	464835	-	24	-	-	-	-
Motor	360	91598	-	71	4	1	-	-
Sailing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fishing	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Total</u> <u>Foreign</u>	830	556433	5	95	4	1	-	-
<u>Coast</u> <u>Wise</u>								
Steam	98	47747		58	4	3	-	-
Motor	943	70994		52	3	2	-	-
Sailing	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
Fishing	1829	17387	2	43	-	-	-	-
<u>Total</u> <u>Coast</u> <u>Wise</u> *	2870	136128	2	153	7	5	-	-
<u>Total</u> <u>Foreign</u> <u>and</u> <u>Coast</u> <u>Wise</u> *	3700	692561	7	248	11	6	-	-

\* Includes local fishing vessels and small craft.

Additional

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Tons</u>
Yachts	3,222	14,814



# 11. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF THE PORT

TABLE "B"

## (a) PASSENGER TRAFFIC DURING THE YEAR 1951

	<u>INWARDS</u>			<u>OUTWARDS</u>		
	<u>Alien</u>	<u>British</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Alien</u>	<u>British</u>	<u>Total</u>
January ...	2349	3280	5629	1793	2226	4019
February ..	1629	1386	3015	1488	1798	3286
March .....	2266	9490	11756	2779	16922	19701
April .....	2400	15266	17666	2393	8579	10972
May .....	2599	9526	12125	2743	12479	15222
June .....	3263	14539	17802	3430	18948	22378
July .....	12788	25060	37848	7099	41836	48935
August .....	11192	49795	60987	12777	40934	53711
September .	6478	31506	37984	10033	18399	28432
October ...	2383	7977	10360	3102	5202	8304
November ..	2276	2444	4720	2332	1857	4189
December ..	2295	2984	5279	3416	4364	7780
Totals ..	51918	173253	225171	53385	173544	226929

## (b) CARGO TRAFFIC

### Principal Imports and Exports

	<u>Imports</u> (tons)	<u>Exports</u> (tons)
Coal, Coke and patent fuel .....	123,772	-
Fish .....	378	-
Fruit and vegetables .....	13,602	-
Grain and flour .....	6	-
Iron and steel .....	1,768	5,392
Oil fuel .....	10,237	-
Timber .....	7,817	-
Building and road materials .....	-	3,538
* Other commodities .....	36,782	22,988
	<hr/> 194,362	<hr/> 31,918
* Includes:-		
Cars .....	7,795	9,978
Motor Cycles	703	774
Motor Lorries	19	-

## (c) Foreign ports from which vessels arrive

Dieppe; Ostend; Boulogne; Casablanca; Nieuport; Dunkirk;  
Rotterdam; Le Havre; Zeebrugge; Hamburg; Cherbourg;  
Ouistreham; Deauville; Le Treport; Antwerp; Bordeaux.

The principal foreign port from which vessels arrive is Dieppe; 451 passenger arrivals from that port alone, in addition to a number of general cargo vessels.



# MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

Annual Return by the Medical Inspector of Aliens for the year ended 31st December, 1951

	Total	Number inspected by the Medical Inspector	Number subjected to detailed examination by the Medical Inspector	Lunatic, Idiot or M.D.	Undesirable for medical reasons	Physically incapacitated	Suffering from acute infectious disease	Land necessary for adequate medical examination	Transmigrants
(a) Total number of Aliens landing at the Port	51918	50120	1798	-	7	18	-	-	-
(b) Aliens refused permission to land by the Immigration Officer	77	72	5	3	2	-	-	-	-
(c) Transmigrants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Aliens arriving at the Port	51995	50192	1803	3	9	18	-	-	-

Total Number of vessels carrying alien passengers ..... 468

Number of vessels dealt with by the Medical Inspector ... 468

## III. WATER SUPPLY

### (1) Source of Supply for

(a) The Port ..... East Side - British Railways - Southern Region Well at Denton

West Side - Newhaven and Seaford Water Company.

(b) Shipping ..... Ditto                      Ditto                      Ditto

(2) Hydrants and Hosepipes:     EAST SIDE

These are under the care of an employee of the British Railways.- Southern Region.. Before any tanks are filled, a certain quantity of water is run to waste. The water itself is subject to chlorination by Voxsan system.

Three samples were taken from the mains and proved to be of good and satisfactory quality.

WEST SIDE

Under the care of Newhaven and Seaford Water Company. The water from a Deep well at Poverty Bottom is chlorinated.

Two samples taken from the mains were satisfactory. Additional particulars of examination submitted by the Water Company's Analyst prove this to be a safe and suitable source of supply.

IV. PORT HEALTH REGULATIONS, 1933  
AND 1945

(1) ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEALING WITH DECLARATION OF HEALTH

Declarations of Health are collected and examined immediately on arrival of a vessel. If by H.M. Customs Officer, they are forwarded to the Public Health Department.

(2) BOARDING OF VESSELS ON ARRIVAL

All vessels from outside Home Trade limits are boarded as soon as they are moored. Any vessel which has come from an infected port receives special attention, and is boarded by the Medical Officer of Health.

(3) NOTIFICATION TO THE AUTHORITY OF INWARD VESSELS REQUIRING SPECIAL ATTENTION (WIRELESS MESSAGES, LAND SIGNAL STATIONS, INFORMATION FROM PILOTS, CUSTOMS OFFICERS, ETC.)

With regard to vessels arriving from infected ports, notification is sent immediately to the Public Health Department at Newhaven; or, if the vessels arrive outside normal working hours, the information is sent direct to the Sanitary Inspector, for his attention. Any matter on which information is required is transmitted to the Sanitary Inspector, who contacts the Medical Officer of Health.

(4) MOORING STATIONS DESIGNATED UNDER ARTICLE 10: (a) Within the docks; (b) Outside the docks. There are no special mooring stations at Newhaven Port.

(5) PARTICULARS OF ANY STANDING EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 14

There are no standing exemptions from the provisions of Article 14.

(6) EXPERIENCE OF WORKING OF ARTICLE 16

No cases of improper boarding of vessels previous to the grant of pratique have occurred.

(7) WHAT, IF ANY, ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR:

(a) Premises and waiting rooms for medical examinations:

These have been maintained at the improved standard effected in 1948.



- (b) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons and clothing and other articles:

There are disinfection stations on the East Quay. Steam disinfection can also be undertaken at the Newhaven Infectious Diseases Hospital. D.D.T. and blowers are also available.

- (c) Premises for the temporary accommodation of persons when such accommodation is required for the purpose of the Regulations:

Accommodation is available at the Newhaven Infectious Diseases Hospital whenever required.

- (d) Hospital accommodation available for Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Smallpox and other infectious diseases:

In the case of Smallpox, patients would normally be admitted to the River Hospitals, Long Reach, Dartford, Kent. Any other cases of infectious diseases are admitted to the Newhaven Infectious Diseases Hospital.

- (e) Ambulance Transport:

The East Sussex County Council is the Ambulance Authority and ambulances are provided for infectious Diseases cases.

- (f) Supervision of contacts:

Contacts can be dealt with by sending them to the Newhaven Infectious Diseases Hospital. In special circumstances, immigrants may be instructed by the Medical Officer to report on arrival in the district of a local authority to the Medical Officer of Health of the local authority.

- (8) ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BACTERIOLOGICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF RATS FOR PLAGUE

These arrangements can be carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton.

- (9) ARRANGEMENTS FOR OTHER BACTERIOLOGICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

These can also be carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton.

- (10) INFORMATION AS TO THE LOCATION, DAYS AND HOURS OF THE AVAILABLE FACILITIES FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES AMONG MERCHANT SEAMEN UNDER INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING IN-PATIENT TREATMENT; ALSO AS TO THE STEPS TAKEN TO MAKE FACILITIES KNOWN TO SEAMEN.

The masters of all vessels are requested to report any case of venereal disease occurring amongst their crews, when instructions can be given as to treatment at the Brighton Clinic.

- (11) ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE INTERMENT OF THE DEAD

When death occurs on board a ship at Newhaven Port the body can be removed to the mortuary at Newhaven Cemetery, and arrangements made for interment.



(12) OTHER MATTERS, IF ANY, REQUIRING OR RECEIVING ATTENTION

Should any other matters requiring attention be brought to the notice of the Sanitary Inspector, they are dealt with immediately.

TABLE "C"

Cases of Infectious Sickness landed from Vessels

Disease	Number of Cases during the year		Number of Vessels Concerned	Average number of cases for previous five years
	Passengers	Crew		
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

TABLE "D"

Cases of Infectious Sickness occurring on Vessels during the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival

Disease	Number of Cases during the year		Number of Vessels Concerned	Average number of cases for previous five years
	Passengers	Crew		
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

If any case of Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Smallpox or Typhus occurred, or if plague-infected rats were discovered, or if any severe outbreak of Malaria occurred on an arriving ship during the year, a short account should be given of the steps taken.

There is nothing to report under this heading for the year 1951.

V. MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST RODENTS

(1) Steps taken for detection of Rodent Plague.

- (a) In ships in the Port: Vessels are examined for rats when possible.
- (b) On quays, wharves, warehouses, etc., in the vicinity of the Port. Any mortality, other than by poison, would be suspect.

(2) Measures taken to prevent the passage of rats between ships and the shore.

Rat guards are required to be fitted to all foreign trade vessels and any vessel found to be rat infested is required to withdraw gangways at night.

(3) Methods of deratization of:

- (a) Ships: If search reveals any infestation, trapping and poisoning are available. British Railway vessels are serviced by a firm of contractors.
- (b) Premises in the vicinity of the docks and quays:  
The dock undertaking employ a servicing firm who inspect, bait, poison and gas. A company's rat catcher is also employed.

(4) Measures taken for the detection of rat prevalence in ships and on shore:

- (a) In Ships: The Port Health Inspector examines where possible.
- (b) On Shore: The same remarks apply as under heading (3) (b) in regard to the Servicing firm.

(5) Rat-Proofing

- (a) To what extent are docks, wharves, warehouses, etc., Rat-proof?

The docks and warehouses, owing to their construction being mainly of wood, are not in any degree rat-proof.

- (b) Action taken to extend rat-proofing:

- (i) In Ships: Ships using the port are mainly cross-channel packets and colliers, and have a fairly high degree of rat-proofing. If any excessive harbourage is discovered, the Master of the ship is required to abate the same.
- (ii) On Shore: As in (5) (a) the wood decking, wood buildings, open platforms, are almost impossible to proof.

RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR 1951

TABLE "E"

(1) ON VESSELS

Number of Rats	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Black												
Brown												
Species )												
not )												
recorded )												
Examined	----- N I L -----											
Infected )												
with )												
Plague )												



TABLE "F"

(2) IN DOCKS, QUAYS, WHARVES AND WAREHOUSES \*

Number of Rats	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Black Brown Species ) not ) recorded ) Examined ) Infected ) with ) Plague )		24			40			45			30	
Total in the year - 139 - Species not recorded												
* Under the control of British Railways - Southern Region.												

TABLE "G"

Measures of rat destruction on Plague "infected" or  
"suspected" Vessels, or vessels from Plague infected ports  
arriving in the Port during the year

Total number of such vessels arriving (1)	Number of such vessels fumigated by SO <sub>2</sub> . (2)	Number of Rats Killed (3)	Number of such vessels fumigated by H.C.N. (4)
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Number of Rats Killed (5)	Number of such vessels on which trapping poisoning etc were employed. (6)	Number of Rats Killed (7)	Number of vessels on which measures of rat destruction were not carried out (8)
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

TABLE "H" \*

Deratization Certificates and Deratization  
Exemption Certificates issued during the year

\* Newhaven Port has not been approved by the Minister of Health for the issue of these certificates.



# VI. HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES

TABLE "J"

## CLASSIFICATION OF NUISANCES

Nationality of Vessel	Number inspected during the year	Defects of original construction	Structural Defects through wear and tear	Dirt Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to Health
British	178	Nil	3	6
Other Nations	70	Nil	4	Nil

# VII. FOOD INSPECTION

## 1. PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937

These Regulations have been carried out and the following foods have been landed at Newhaven:-

	<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Tons</u>
<u>Ex-Dieppe</u>	Fruit and vegetables .....	7,137
	Cheese .....	317
	Wines and Spirits .....	4,709
	Nuts .....	1,117
	Preserves (including preserved meats, i.e. hams) .....	2,546
	Fish .....	292
	Chocolate .....	485
		<hr/>
		16,603
<u>Ex-Jersey</u>	New Potatoes .....	3,686
<u>Ex-N.Africa</u>	New Potatoes .....	340
<u>Ex-Spain</u>	Oranges and Lemons .....	1,867
		<hr/>
	Total .....	22,496
		<hr/>

## II. PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1926; and PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC. IN FOOD) REGULATIONS 1925-40

It has not been necessary to take any action under these Regulations.

III. SHELL-FISH: INFORMATION RESPECTING ANY SHELL-FISH BEDS OR LAYINGS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE P.H.A. STATING WHETHER THEY ARE, IN THE OPINION OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER, LIABLE TO POLLUTION. REPORT OF ANY ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS, 1934, OR THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

There are no shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Port Health Authority.

IV. NUMBER OF SAMPLES OF FOOD EXAMINED BY:-

- (a) Bacteriologist ..... Nil
- (b) Analyst ..... Nil

G. M. D. S. B. LOBBAN,  
Port Medical Officer

March, 1952.